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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/937,639	09/25/2001	Mark Kevin O'Connor	146381.00001	2501

7590

07/13/2005

SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP
1501 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

HAN, QI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2654

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/937,639	O'CONNOR, MARK KEVIN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Qi Han	2654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/25/2001 *ADK*
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-75 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-75 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-13, 27-32, 40-47 and 74 drawn to a text processor, system, method for facilitating and displaying word-shapes of a language text with phonetic clues, classified in class 704, subclass 9.
 - II. Claims 14-19, 21-26 and 74 drawn to a method of converting text from one form to another, classified in class 382, subclass 185.
 - III. Claims 33-39, 48-58 and 70-73, drawn to a teaching method for assisting user in learning, classified in class 434, subclass 156.
 - IV. Claims 59-69 and 75-76, drawn to a writing system and method for displaying and producing pictographs, classified in class 715, subclass 535.
 - V. Claim 20, drawn to a display-option for processing voice (speech) recognition, classified in class 704, subclass 231.
2. Inventions I-V are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention II has separate utility such as converting text in an alphabetically-written natural language into an enriched text and selecting the required converter algorithm or converter program for a specific display-

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option, which may be used for other applications, like language translation and handwriting recognition; invention III has separate utility such as teaching user to learn and compare word-shapes in different writing-systems; invention IV has separate utility such providing some hundreds of pictographs, wherein the pictographs can be produced electronically, combined by two or more simpler pictograph, modified by using dialectical marks; and invention V has separate utility such as matching display-option with spoken performance by using phonetic information provided by voice(speed) recognition software or by skilled human agency. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons giving above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classifications, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Applicants are advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement is traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

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6. Applicant is also reminded that all the claims should have clearly defined dependency, statutory consistence, term antecedent basis and the limitation scope of the claimed invention. For example, some errors and/or vagueness are found in the claims, such as claims 28, 69-70 and 74 (statutory consistence problem), claims 52-53 and 63 (dependency vague), claim 20 ("**the match**"---antecedent basis problem), and so on. Therefore, applicant's cooperation is required for correction and clarification of all errors and indefinite terms that applicant is aware of, in response to this office action.

Conclusion

7. Please address mail to be delivered by the United States Postal Service (USPS) as follows:

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Or: 571-273-8300, (for informal or draft communications, and please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

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Effective January 14, 2005, except correspondence for Maintenance Fee payments, Deposit Account Replenishments (see 1.25(c)(4)), and Licensing and Review (see 37 CFR 5.1(c) and 5.2(c)), please address correspondence to be delivered by other delivery services (Federal Express (Fed Ex), UPS, DHL, Laser, Action, Purolater, etc.) as follows:

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Qi Han whose telephone numbers is (571) 272-7604. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil, can be reached on (571) 272-7602.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Inquiries regarding the status of submissions relating to an application or questions on the Private PAIR system should be directed to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028 between the hours of 6 a.m. and midnight Monday through Friday EST, or by e-mail at: ebc@uspto.gov. For general information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

QH/qh
June 24, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David D. Knepper", with a stylized flourish at the end.

DAVID D. KNEPPER
PRIMARY EXAMINER